

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the official action dated August 31, 1999. Reconsideration is requested.

This response is timely filed, as it is accompanied by a petition to file the response in the first month, with the requisite petition fee.

Applicant notes with appreciation the examiner's indication that claims 1-4 recite subject matter that defines over the prior art of record and would be allowable if rewritten to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The foregoing amendments to the specification and claims are made in response to the grounds for rejection made by the examiner.

More specifically, the applicant has amended the specification to include a Brief Description of the Drawings section and to include reference numerals. Applicant also submits simultaneously herewith a Request for Approval of Drawings Changes in which reference numerals and lead lines are added to the drawings. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the specification be withdrawn.

Turning to the claims, applicant has canceled claims 1-4, and therefore the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is moot. Claims 6-24 as now appearing in the application have been drafted in view of the examiner's comments supporting rejections of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Independent claims 6 and 21 include generic language to cover the several embodiments disclosed in the specification and recited in the original claims. Accordingly, the added claims do not contain new matter. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections on these grounds be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims 6-24 are in condition for allowance, and such action is solicited.

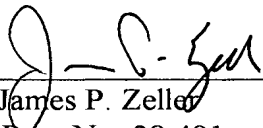
Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form in an effort to advance this case to allowance, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, O'TOOLE, GERSTEIN,
MURRAY & BORUN

December 30, 1999

By: _____


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